

Hermes

BY THE STUDENTS OF WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY IN MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT

Volume 5 Number 3

March 2, 1978



Junior Faculty member Andy Markovits

photo by
DANNY HAAR

The Faculty: A Community Under Pressure

By ALAN SALY

There is always talk on campus about student life. Time and again we raise the specters of our problems and pressures, seeking answers in a greater emphasis on our community life. But we don't often recognize that we live within another community — that of the Faculty — and that our professors may be as troubled socially as we are.

I asked Richard Ohmann, Professor of English, what were, in his mind, the major factors working against faculty unity. One of the two main causes he cited was the department structure of the university.

"It sets us all at odds with one another," he said. "We're all looking out for the same scarce

resources. People often have an attitude of 'they're getting something we're not getting'."

The career pattern determined for faculty by the academic community at large was, for Dick Ohmann, the other main reason:

"Our careers," he said, "are determined not by the work we do here but by how well we succeed in making ourselves known in the guild outside college. The younger faculty have to direct a lot of energy outside by writing for publication. There is a tremendous impetus to set people striving at the outset in ways that don't contribute to collegiality (the measure of what, in the faculty, is analogous to 'school spirit' for the undergraduate) here at Wesleyan."

Continued on centerfold

Inside: Divestiture, p. 3

DNA Conference, p. 4

Lit Supplement, p. 8

New! Improved! Student Government!

By ALAN JACOBS

When Woodrow Wilson was a professor here, he devised an extensive program for restructuring student government based on the British Parliament. Though the reform was not instituted, the point is this: There's nothing new about restructuring student government. This is not to say that the process is without merit. In redesigning a government, students are forced to think about the needs of a particular community and construct a framework that will most effectively and most fairly serve that community. Sometimes it even works.

The latest chapter in Wesleyan's history of government reform is near completion. It is the product of nearly a year of work by the 21-member Committee to Restructure Student Government at Wesleyan (CRSGW, for you alphabet-lovers). The aim of the committee in drawing up the proposal was to make student government at Wesleyan more centralized and more representative.

The centralization will hopefully be achieved by the formation of the Wesleyan Student Assembly (WSA), which will serve as the voice of the Wesleyan students. Approximately 43 students will be elected to the WSA. The WSA will then be divided into six subcommittees: Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Student Trustees, Elections and Appointments, and Student Organization and Information.

Currently, governing and policy-making groups (CBC, EPC, SAC, etc.)

are only loosely associated. At times the work of the various groups has been redundant or even at cross-purposes. The WSA will provide the framework for information sharing and joint policy making.

As far as representation, the CRSGW proposes two changes. For one, there will be an increase of ten in the number of students currently holding governing or policymaking positions. Secondly, the election to the WSA will be primarily on the basis of living units. Each unit (units have not yet been delineated) will elect a person to represent the unit in the WSA. Some representatives will be elected at-large and will be elected directly to a particular committee of the WSA. Locally-elected representatives will be appointed to WSA committees after elections.

Yet the implications of the CRSGW proposal go beyond centralization and representation. With the proposed government there will no longer be a CBC. Instead, the Student Budget Committee will consider allocations and propose a budget to the entire WSA which will then vote on it. Currently, final decisions are made by the five-member CBC. Also, the CBC currently makes appointments to the Student Judiciary Board, Honor Board and Student Events Committee. This function would be assumed by the Elections and Appointments committee of the WSA. Perhaps most important though, is that the WSA will replace the

CBC as the official voice of the student body.

Another important implication is in the area of student trustees. Student trustees, now appointed by the CBC, would be locally elected members of the WSA. As a WSA committee it is hoped that they will be able to present a more unified and representative voice at Trustee meetings. In addition, the committee of student trustees would keep the WSA and the student body informed on trustee developments.

The proposal by the CRSGW is in many ways similar to the proposal drawn up by the Committee for Legislative Equality at Wesleyan (CLEW) which was defeated last spring. But CLEW was rather hastily organized and left several problems unresolved. The CRSGW, on the other hand, has worked out their proposal very, very carefully.

The group began meeting last spring, shortly after the defeat of CLEW. The meetings were open at first, but the doors were closed when it became too time-consuming to initiate new members into the ever-growing world of the committee.

Yet before the doors were closed there had already accumulated a fairly diverse group of people. Said one committee member, "I can't imagine a better mix of people." The mixture was at times explosive, especially at the first meetings. Things were unorganized and shouting matches often prevailed. Even when things

calmed down, differences didn't disappear.

The major philosophical difference on the committee — which split the group almost exactly in half — was over efficiency at the sake of representation. Appointments, one side maintained, would be a more efficient means of filling positions. But the other side felt that elections would be more representative.

This and other philosophical differences forced the committee to discuss each and every aspect of the proposal — sometimes for days — until both sides were satisfied. Although the process must have been frustrating to the committee members, it no doubt helped the proposal in the long run.

Yet there is still one variable upon which the entire proposal hinges: the Wesleyan students. The first hurdle is to have the proposal passed. The committee members are currently organizing a campaign to explain the proposal. Most members are quite confident it will meet the approval of the students.

The big test will come when the government is instituted. It will require leadership and cooperation from students. The proposed government depends on students to run for the WSA and others to communicate with their elected representatives.

If the proposed government is well supported — at the polls and afterwards — Wesleyan may have a government that would make old Woodrow proud.

IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday, March 30	General meeting to discuss proposal
Friday, March 31	Introduction appears in Argus
Tuesday, April 4	Proposal appears in Argus
Tuesday, April 11 - Thursday, 13th	Students vote on proposal
Friday, April 14	Results appear in Argus

Tentative Framework

Student Budget Committee (SBC)

Five members, not elected directly. Will present an allocation budget to WSA. Will be responsible for day-to-day use of allocated funds.

Student Affairs Committee (SAC)

Five members, four elected directly. All five will represent the WSA on the faculty SAC, which is concerned with student life in general.

Student Organizing and Information Committee

Seven members not elected directly. Much like SUCC now. Book co-op, ombudsman would be run by this group. Also they will prepare a newsletter.

Student Trustee Committee

Ten members, not elected directly. Would keep WSA informed on trustee matters and design WSA proposals to present at board meetings. Currently, student trustees are appointed by the CBC and have no formal responsibilities to the student body.

Academic Affairs Committee (AAC)

Seven members. Three elected directly will represent the WSA on the Educational Policy Committee along with a fourth member not elected directly. Also three more members will work on the committee, but will not be part of the EPC.

Elections & Appointments Committee

Five members, not elected directly. Will run local living unit elections as well as at-large elections to WSA. In addition, will help make appointments to the Student Judiciary Board, Honor Board, social committee and student events committee, none of which are directly affiliated with the WSA.

Friday, March 3 10 PM-2 AM Sat. DANCE with live music: CONTRABAND (Free beer while it lasts)

Saturday, March 4

2 AM	Israeli Folk Dancing	taught by Laurie Trupin & Ruth Sparrow
3 AM	Juggling (Bring balls)	taught by David Kendall
4 AM	Clowning	taught by Helen Mayer & Debb. Lipschutz
6 AM	Massage	taught by Susan Lourie
7 AM	Aikido	taught by Susan Lourie & David Rynick
8 AM	Contact improvisation	taught by Andy Warshaw
9 AM	Yoga	taught by Kay Poursine
10 AM	Dance Improvisation	taught by the Dance Improvisation II Class
11 AM	Tap Dance	taught by Larry Francer
NOON	Jazz Dance	taught by Donna Jacobs
1 PM	Balinese Dance	taught by I Made Bandem
2 PM	Mime	taught by Laura Eliasoph
3 PM	Traditions of Chinese Folk Dance	taught by Chiang Ching
4 PM	One Red Rose That I Mean & The Corner Store	solo performance by Jim Martin a performance by Wesleyan's Dance Theatre for children
5 PM	Latin American Dance	taught by Roger Sanchez-Berroa
6 PM	Social Dance from the Roaring 20's and the Rocking 50's	taught by Lindsay Huddleston
7 PM	Rhapsody in 3/4 Time: A Waltz Workshop	taught by Jill Snyder & Andrea Shaw
8 PM	Square Dance	caller: David Blood



Dance Wesleyan invites the Wesleyan community to join us in the third annual Day of Dance, 24 hours of movement workshops for the benefit of the Dance Department, this weekend in the '92 Theater.

Friday night at 10 p.m. an all-campus party at the '92, music by Contraband, will kick off the event. The workshops will begin at 2 a.m. and continue through Saturday. Saturday evening at 8 p.m. a square dance with a live caller will close the Day of Dance.

Events will cost \$1 each, with discounts for three or more events. All proceeds go to the Dance Department.

The Day of Dance was first organized three years ago when severe cutbacks threatened Wesleyan's dance program. Concerned students organized 24 hours of workshops and movement classes, both as a celebration of dance at Wesleyan and as a fundraising event to provide desperately needed support for the program. The proceeds from the first Day of Dance succeeded in preventing the proposed cuts.

The Dance Department continues to grow, and the Day of Dance has become an annual event which helps to support the dance program. Please join us!

Letters to the Editors

Sexist Athletics

To the Editor:

Alan Jacobs, in his article "Seven Who Compete," has imposed his own standards of womanhood on the women athletes he interviewed. He repeatedly brings up the issue of "femininity." "If you have any doubts about the femininity of female athletes ..." Why is the concept of "femininity" important? Women are not so concerned with the femininity of other women. Alan is writing for a writing for a male-manipulated audience that may be concerned that women who violate the rules of appropriate female behavior will no longer play men's games according to the rules. If women refuse to act in a traditional, male-defined, "feminine" manner, they may also reject the men who have always related to them from within the masculine stereotype; women may refuse to continue to be submissive. If the rules of the game change, men may be forced to sacrifice some of the power they have over women. Losing power and privilege is always a threat.

I am arguing that "femininity" and its counterpart, "masculinity," are artificial constraints upon our freedom to express ourselves as human beings and thus are destructive concepts. Half of the spectrum of human emotions are automatically prohibited to one sex or the other by these canons. Femininity prescribes that women are not to be adventurous or aggressive; masculinity will not allow men to cry.

It is annoying that a man, in choosing to write about somewhat unorthodox women, finds it necessary to bestow his approval on their womanliness. Alan has investigated the situation and discovered that athletic women, while initially suspect, are really OK, they are not necessarily lesbians or Amazons.

Thank you, but women do not need the condescending approval and constrictions of men. Our liberation begins as we reject stereotypes and expectations foisted upon us. We then become free to define for ourselves our own ways of relating to others, opening up much greater potential for human interaction than possible if we cling to stereotyped modes of conduct.

Sincerely,
Nancy Grossman

Articles Fail

To the Editor:

When I heard that the *Hermes* issue dated February 16, 1978 was to feature a special set of articles devoted to women in athletics, written by men, I must admit that I was a little apprehensive. But, I was willing to wait until I saw the articles before I praised or condemned them. I have read the articles now, and I find that my initial reservations were warranted.

Jacobs' and Roland's articles on women in athletics do provide in-

formation about their topic, as any article in, say, the *Argus* or in *Time Magazine* would do. But their articles fail miserably at embodying the critical perspective which I have come to expect from *Hermes*.

The accuracy and sensitivity of the articles are already suspect when two men, who have never experienced the frustration of inadequate facilities and unequal treatment faced by women in athletics, have control over what information about discrimination against women is printed, and over editing what women say about their sports experiences. As an interviewer and an author, Alan Jacobs wields a great amount of power over how his subjects are portrayed in the finished article. When his description of female athletes is littered with talk of "femininity" and "vivacious smiles," Jacobs displays the same sexist attitudes which pervade the society in which this inequitable sports system prevails. As a result, his depiction does not do justice to the women he interviewed. The author betrays his own societally-induced concern that women live up to "feminine ideals" (i.e., male-defined notions of beauty, charm, and acceptable behavior for women) while participating in sports which are "masculine" (another male-defined term whose ideals are diametrically opposed to those of "femininity"). Although I cannot deny that, because of sexist society, women athletes may very well be concerned about their "feminine" image, Jacobs concentrates on this issue to the exclusion of other problems Wesleyan women athletes face. None of Jacobs' interviews mention such difficulties as the lack of locker space, practice time, coaching time, and the absence of female coaches for most of the women's teams. When Robin Kehoe reveals that the whirlpool is in the men's locker room, the author's only comment is that this location "was...less accessible to women." He also says that, for Kehoe, "off the field...things are a little more sticky." Both these statements trivialize problems faced by Wesleyan women athletes which are certainly more pressing than the worry about losing one's "femininity."

Besides ignoring certain basic problems encountered by Wesleyan women athletes, Jacobs concentrates on women in competitive sports to the exclusion of a whole group of women athletes who run, jump, row, throw, and play for the exercise, for the fun of it, for the way it makes them feel about their bodies and about themselves. These women, who may have been completely unathletic until they came to Wesleyan, and therefore cannot "compete" in the sense that Jacobs' article emphasizes, offer "rather interesting perceptions" which Jacobs' article ignores. The condescending, "don't-worry-women-are-becoming-just-like-men-in-athletics" attitude that Jacobs represents is only one perspective on women in athletics.

When I turned to Paul Roland's article, I found a primarily factual article which again failed to illuminate the major political issues clearly and critically. His article suffers from imprecise writing, and from a lack of consciousness of how misleading that imprecision can be. His statement that "legislation already in effect threatens to finally eliminate all impediments to equality in scholastic and collegiate athletics in the U.S." (emphasis mine) illustrates a prime instance of this lack of precision. The word "threatens" connotes the action of some evil force against a good or neutral situation. In Roland's statement, the use of this word implies that the legislation itself is bad, and that the present male-dominated sports world is good, or at least neutral, a position I'm sure the author did not intend to communicate. The improper use of this word displays an insensitivity to the power of

concerning how to achieve equality for women in athletics, his choice of language makes it appear that Russell's method is a viable solution to the problem. A more critical approach would have revealed certain flaws which would have, in turn, demonstrated the problems in attitudes which athletic women must face. Russell advocates waiting for the demand for women's facilities to increase before creating them. This stance denies that Wesleyan has responsibility to provide adequate facilities so that women who may not be athletic when they arrive at Wesleyan may acquaint themselves with a full range of sports activities. This in effect tells women who are not comfortable with athletics when they come here that they will have no opportunity to become so. In addition, if we do not have adequate facilities, those prospective fresh-women who would create the demand Russell is waiting for will not choose to attend Wesleyan.

Although I commend Jacobs and Roland for publicizing Title IX and the issue of women in sports, their articles merely scratch the surface of a more complex problem. Jacobs' article unfortunately reinforces the double-bind myth that women can be both "feminine" (a male-defined concept) and athletic (i.e., "masculine"). In a larger sense, it reinforces the myth that certain traits are objectively definable as "masculine" and "feminine," and that these traits are sex-linked. Roland's article is a well-intentioned effort, but misses too many opportunities for critical exploration to clarify the issue for the reader. Mere concern about a "woman's issue," and the demonstration of this concern by writing about it, do not necessarily result in constructive pieces which contribute to the liberation of both women and men. We must learn to distinguish between thoughtful, critical articles and unanalytical or downright damaging pieces which I have always thought do not belong in *Hermes*.

Finally, as one who still feels uncomfortable walking into the gym for my beginning swimming class, I'd like to see what the women athletes themselves think about all this. Jacobs' story on Robin Kehoe illustrates how changes in the criteria by which athletes are judged may arise as women enter the sports enthusiast's consciousness. I'd like to hear about this issue, about the lack of coaches, about the facilities—I'd like to hear both good and bad experiences with the gym, but I'd like to hear them from the women themselves.

Sincerely,
Marilyn Bacarella

Authors Reply

Alan Jacobs replies:

The two letters represent a misreading of my article. I intended to provide only a glimpse of the various ways women compete so as to supplement Paul's article on Title IX.

The concern over femininity is groundless. In the entire article there were only two brief references to the subject.

Ms. Bacarella was also disturbed by lack of mention of poor facilities and inadequate coaching as well as discussion of women who exercise "for fun." She blamed the omissions on the fact that I am male.

Being male may give me a different viewpoint, but that doesn't make the article less valid. The women interviewed shied away from discussion of poor facilities and coaching. As for women who exercise "for fun," there simply wasn't room for this.

I admit that my article may not have answered [or even asked] all the important questions on the subject. But my piece [and Paul's also] was only meant to be the beginning of discussion, not a final statement on the matter.

Editors' Note: Paul Roland was unable to respond due to illness.

Isn't WESOBER?

I need a drink; having read Alan Saly's WESOBER editorial in this week's *HERMES*, I need something to relax my incredulous, troubled mind. What bothers me the most about something that is just another one of those moralistic, patronizing pieces that secure people write about insecure people, is its total disconnection from life. How can Wesleyan possibly be perceived as a student community that is too alcoholic? One thing that I couldn't be more sure of, is that Wesleyan is one of the most sober, non-alcoholic, straight, non-drug oriented schools in New England, if not the country. There are more people being what Alan Saly calls "responsible" than there are flip top rings lying in Wesleyan trash cans at any moment. Go to Downey House on a weeknight and take a look, there ain't nobody hanging out and the ones that are there, are spending more on pinball than on beer.

If anything, not enough Wesleyan students have been drinking, smoking some herb or snorting some coke. I say get high. The reason I suggest this involves the inability of many students to loosen up any other way. Drugs loosen the joints, untie the mind, release all those repressed thoughts and desires. I say let your fucking pants down! Go to Downey, play some pins, watch T.V., shoot some pool, drink some beer and above all talk to people, you might learn something. They're a lot more interesting outside of class and even a little less pretentious.

I'm not saying be irresponsible, forget your problems and self-responsibilities, but instead, work them out, think about them, get new perspectives on yourself before you start trying to "help" someone else. If you read Alan's editorial and said yes to this absurd crusade, I am talking to you: Loosen up, think of yourself, your health, your life; take it easy — GO DRINK A BEER.

Arthur Papier '78

To Live Is To Take Sides

By PAUL WESSEL

Many, if not all, of us have experienced situations at Wesleyan where our desires and those of the administration haven't quite met. After a few of these, you begin to wonder why you couldn't get into that class, why you weren't "allowed" to move off campus, why you had to take three exams in two days. What's the problem? — Is it your inadequacy, is it the school's structure, or is something out of whack? The South Africa investment issue has led me to believe that, as James Herndon put it, perhaps "this is the way it's spooed to be."

University policy states that investment decisions depend only on financial criteria; morals, we are told, confuse the issue too much. Upon discovering this at the open Social Implications Subcommittee meeting a few weeks back, something clicked into — or maybe out of — place. How, I wondered, can a University that requires each of its students to submit to an honor code and

The "primary mission of Wesleyan may contribute to the solution of social problems far more substantially than its concern for the social implications of its investment policy."

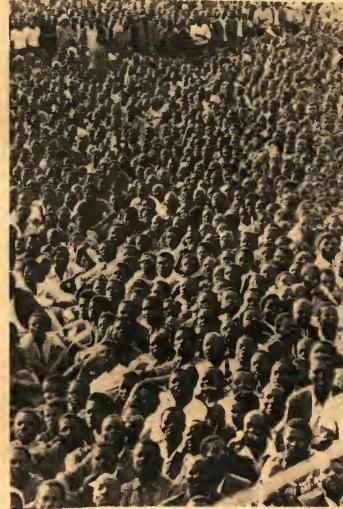
Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Social Implications of Wesleyan's Investment Policy

take responsibility for not just their own actions, but also those of others, claim it can act without regard to morals in investing money? There exists a serious contradiction between the actions of Wesleyan University as a liberal arts educational institution and its action as a profit-seeking corporation.

"It is the responsibility of members of the University to take constructive action in the case of committing or observing an apparent violation of the Code," states the Honor Code. Morality is, at least for the educational institution, an obligation of students arising out of their involvement in the University community. Yet the 1970 Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Social Implications of Wesleyan's Investment Policy claims, "The questions of social impact are far too complicated for our portfolio managers to consider while they are working at the equally complex problem of securing a strong financial position to permit the University to fulfill its primary educational

mission." Morality is, in the eyes and hands of the corporation Wesleyan, a secondary consideration because "the primary mission of Wesleyan may contribute to the solution of social problems far more substantially than its concern for the social implications of its investment policy."

In practice this translates into, "It's OK for us to step on the rights of the South African blacks now,



Africans in Salisbury at a nationalist rally because later we may help them regain these rights." With the same rationale, I can justify cheating on a bio exam, because it may enable me to become a doctor and save lives; the Trustees, through the example of their investment policy, support the violators of the Honor Code. This contradiction demands action.

The Board of Trustees' pretense of constructive action was the formation of the Social Implications Subcommittee (SIS); this was an attempt to deal with, but not resolve, the contradiction. The Subcommittee's duties include evaluating and

recommending voting on proxy proposals, being available to the community to "deal with" concerns about the investment policy, suggesting guidelines to the full Investment Committee, and advising "the administration on the public relations implications" of social and political investment decisions. They have no powers other than recommending, dealing with, suggesting, and advising. The Investment Committee is not bound to follow the SIS decisions, and the SIS is not bound to follow the consensus of the Wesleyan community. The major function of the SIS seems to be the relief of the University's guilt and appeasement of members of the Wesleyan community who are concerned with this problem. The proceedings of the recent South Africa Action Group-SIS meeting support this latter contention. So much for the Board of Trustees' approach.

Wesleyan should alter either the morals espoused in the Honor Code or those promulgated in the investment policy; to be moralistic (and to save face), the investment policy seems to be the better place to attack. So in answer to the Ad Hoc Committee's question, "whose moral criteria will be used in evaluating corporations' activities?" I say, "Ours — the Wesleyan community's." The University cannot relinquish its responsibility; we are a community with a responsibility for our actions. The University is not an isolated being; it is us — our minds and our actions. So I agree (at least on one point) with the Ad Hoc Committee — the portfolio managers should not judge the social implications of the investments, because the issue is too important to be left to these individuals. Finally, the argument that any moral restraints would cripple investment performance, and therefore shouldn't be allowed, is irrelevant. Presently, in contradiction to the policy, "common-sense" moral limitations are applied: the University will not invest in a bank robbery, no matter how high the return might be. Our investments do have a moral base, let's admit it, and act accordingly. Each of us has to take the responsibility and power that arises out of our membership in the Wesleyan community, and use them to build a school that is ours in thought and action. See what was behind your not getting into Basic Design, and fight to change those conditions. Study the South Africa issue, make a decision, and demand that it be taken into account. Look at the issues around you, form positions, and push for their implementation. To live is to take sides.

...break...Newsbreak...Newsbreak...Newsbreak...

...In the World...

'Black Rule' Keeps White Control

The recent agreement for "black majority rule" in Rhodesia will ensure substantial white control in that country for at least ten more years, and may in fact lead to civil war among blacks.

The pact reached by Prime Minister Ian Smith and three black leaders assures whites of 28 seats in the 100-member parliament, as well as jobs and property rights, for the next ten years. Blacks outnumber whites by a ratio of 25 to 1 in Rhodesia.

During a one-year transition period, a ministerial cabinet with equal numbers of white and black members will govern under Smith and the three black leaders.

Guerrilla leaders of the black nationalist Patriotic Front have denounced the pact as "a sellout ... that entrenches discrimination." The white government, meanwhile, has warned blacks living near guerrilla bases that they will be shot if they do not obey village curfews, or if they aid the black nationalists.

Scotland Gets Home Rule — Of A Sort

Scottish nationalists have gained a step toward limited autonomy from England. Under a bill approved by the House of Commons, the Scots will gain the power of legislation and administration in health, education, and transportation — but not taxation — through a regional assembly.

Nationalists are angered by an amendment in the bill requiring approval of home rule by 40 percent of the entire Scottish electorate — not just 40 percent of those who vote.

The bill must still pass through the House of Lords, which cannot defeat it, but can only modify or delay it.

Death Squads Ignored

Guatemalan paramilitary "death squads" killed or abducted at least 113 people during the last three months of 1977, while the government looked the other way, according to Amnesty International.

Since 1966, more than 20,000 Guatemalans have been killed by the squads as "part of a long-standing pattern of political murder and intimidation," Amnesty said. The government has taken no action against the paramilitary groups, the human rights organization added.

Human Rights Takes a Back Seat
President Carter's stand on human rights has selectively bypassed the Philippines, a country under martial law since 1972, where more than 600 political prisoners are being held without trial, some without even charges.

The U.S. is still extending approximately \$37 million in military aid to the Philippines each year, thus securing its rights to two large military bases there. Pentagon officials admit that American arms are being used against Moslem liberation fighters in the southern Philippines.

Meanwhile, Westinghouse has wrapped up a deal with Philippines President Marcos, selling his government a \$1.1 billion nuclear reactor with the help of a \$3 million payment to a close friend of Marcos for "assistance in obtaining the contract."

Under Marcos' "New Society," the rich ten percent of the Philippine population receives 40 percent of the national income; the bottom 40 percent gets only 15 percent.

—compiled by robertsche

...In the Nation...

Coal Pact Passage in Doubt

Coal miners are scheduled to vote Monday on a three-year contract agreed upon under pressure from President Carter, who had been prepared to recommend that the government take over the mines if an accord had not been reached.

Neither the coal industry nor the miners appear satisfied with the contract, and ratification by the 160,000 strikers is still in doubt. The contract includes a 37 percent pay hike over three years, but denies the miners many of the increased medical and pension benefits they had sought.

Even if the miners approve the contract and thus end the strike on its 91st day, coal deliveries will not resume in full until the middle of this month.

New York Seeks to Extradite Little

New York's Governor Carey has ordered that Joan Little be extradited to North Carolina to finish a prison term there. Little, a 24-year-old black woman, is challenging the order, calling North Carolina "the most racist state there is."

Little escaped from prison in Raleigh last October, and was captured two months later in Brooklyn, where she has been living since then, free on \$51,000 bail. She was acquitted in 1975 of the murder of a white jailer who had tried to rape her, but has allegedly been abused by the North Carolina government ever since.

Her lawyer, William Kunstler, has called Carey a racist for the extradition order. "The larger issue is whether a state like North Carolina that has wrecked so many lives ... should be allowed to destroy another black victim," said Kunstler.

Indian Land Settlement Proposed

More than 5,800 new jobs and \$2.4 million in additional tax revenues will be created in Maine under the terms of a Native Americans' land claims settlement proposed by a White House task force. Non-Indians would be employed in approximately 88 percent of those jobs, according to a report released by two Indian tribes.

The proposed settlement of the tribes' claims to 12.5 million acres of land in Maine includes a \$30 million payment by the Federal government and an annual payment by the state of \$1.7 million for 15 years.

It also includes Indian rights to buy 500,000 acres of timberland, now owned by 14 large corporations, at one-third to one-fourth of the present market price.

Elsewhere, more than 300 Indians have begun a 3500-mile walk from California to Washington, protesting 11 anti-Indian bills pending in Congress, including one negating all U.S.-Indian treaties and retracting Federal safeguards of Indian rights.

California Temporarily Halts Nukes

The California Energy Commission has called for a halt to nuclear power construction in that state until waste disposal techniques are devised and approved by the state legislature.

California utility companies may take the Energy Commission to court on the issue. Many of the companies stood to benefit from the proposed Sundesert nuclear reactor, which had been planned to begin operation in 1984. Construction of that plant has now been stopped.

—compiled by robertsche

On Science, Symposia, and Songsheets

By JOHN McNICH
and ERIC ARNESEN

"Recombinant DNA is the term applied to genetic experiments involving the splicing of different strands of DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) to produce new living forms. Such research holds the promise of great benefit to humanity but also poses hazards, as yet theoretical, which have caused much concern, first among scientists and then among officials who have responsibility for public safety." —from the Program, Wesleyan DNA Symposium.

Within the last few years the scientific community has developed new techniques whereby the genetic destiny of humanity may be radically affected. The scientists themselves cannot accurately predict the outcome of this research.

The DNA Symposium of this past weekend, entitled "Making New Genetic Material: Risk Evaluation and Legislation," was co-sponsored by Wesleyan University and the Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering. One of the stated purposes of the Symposium was "to stimulate discussion among scientists, legislators, and others who are professionally concerned with the issue so that a clear point of view may emerge to give direction to future research." Or, in Colin Campbell's words, to enable us to be "singing from the same songsheet." However, contrary to this purpose, there was little discussion (none of a critical nature) and the 'clear point of view' presented to the audience as a relative Gospel Truth, was only one side of the issue. Although it was not stated as such, the unspoken bias was the following: That recombinant DNA research is accepted as a given and the risks involved are minimal or non-existent (one takes a risk walking across the street); that the National Institutes of Health (NIH) guidelines covering basic government-funded Recombinant DNA research are not only sufficient but perhaps too strict; and that we, the public, are not capable of comprehending, much less making decisions on, issues pertaining to Recombinant DNA research. The speakers shared the above assumptions; there were no opposing viewpoints presented. We can now easily see through the illusion of objectivity which pervaded the symposium.

One major issue raised by the Symposium was that of the relationship between the roles of Science and Democracy. The question arises: who is qualified to make the science related decisions which affect all of our lives?



Dr. Bernard Davis, a speaker from the Harvard Medical School, believes that, in this complex and highly technological world, decisions regarding science and technology cannot be made by uninformed average citizens. According to Davis, lay people simply cannot comprehend the many factors involved. But who can? And who does? To whom must technology be accountable? Many members of the scientific community believe it is their right to decide. The "hands off" laissez-faire attitude has led to a greater alienation of the general public from Science. The Federal Government, through its system of supporting scientific research, has a certain amount of power in the decision-making process. And private industry, with vast monetary resources at its command, is responsible to no one. Thus, an assumption shared by scientists, government and industry, as succinctly put by Dr. Davis, is that participatory democracy cannot work in regard to scientific matters. Leave the driving to us, they say, you're in good hands. Regardless of its validity, this attitude serves an explicitly ideological function: to perpetuate the existing power relationships within our society, as well as the corresponding institutional structures.

The record of the scientific community is not a bad or irresponsible one, apart from that of industry, Davis also mentioned. But we feel that in our society, it becomes impossible to separate science from its application. Science does not exist in a vacuum; pure research in recombinant DNA must be placed in a real context. The discoveries being made may someday soon be found on the marketplace. Although discoveries in this field may harm and corporate misuse and irresponsibility are high. We only have to look at DES, Tris, Kepone, and nuclear energy to see how the corporate application of certain technologies has betrayed the public's best interest — technology certainly is not accountable to the public in these cases. And will the application of Recombinant DNA be any different? This is a question that must be addressed now. It is the drug manufacturers who seem most interested in the commercial applications of Recombinant DNA ... Commercial concerns (General Electric, for instance) are at work on nondrug applications of Recombinant DNA research, and at least one new company, the Cetus Corporation, has been formed specifically to develop its commercial applications. (T.

Powledge in the Hastings Center Report, April 1977). At this time, the NIH guidelines do not apply to non-government funded research in this country, much less in other nations. And until legislation is enacted extending these guidelines to corporate research, private industry has the green light to do as it sees fit, regardless of public safety and concern. The concern of the corporations entering the field of genetics is not primarily a humanitarian one, as they might have us think, but rather an economic one. In light of this fact, we must ask what the responsibility is of the scientist engaged in basic Recombinant DNA research, knowing that the discoveries may soon be misused in the market-place.

This question was not dealt with at the Wesleyan DNA Symposium, nor were the larger issues dealing with human genetic engineering and the ecological and health risks involved in the application of basic research. Only basic research and its risk benefit analysis was considered. Furthermore, not only were there no dissenting voices amongst the Symposium speakers, but opposition to Recombinant DNA research was for the most part ignored, and in several cases, even ridiculed. We admit our own bias (if we haven't we will); those members of the symposium did not. The information presented to us as a whole was only one side of this 'complicated' issue. How can responsible decisions be made when all aspects of the situation are not clearly presented? By giving half the truth, the Symposium did an injustice to the members of its audience. The false sense of security (our bias) undermines the ability of legislators to enact responsible policies.

Whether or not one accepts the legitimacy of Recombinant DNA research and application, the "Making New Genetic Material" Symposium systematically ignored the questions we feel are most important. What is needed is a new way of dealing with technology, especially a technology which causes as much concern as the DNA issue and the larger issue of life itself. The Argus recently reported that the Symposium would lead to a "more favorable environment in which such legislation (regarding DNA research) may be produced." We ask: More favorable to whom? The scientific community and private industry, of course. The attitude shared by the Argus writer and the Symposium itself ignores or accepts as a given premise many of the things that we call into question. It is the responsibility and accountability of those involved in the application of the technology, as well as the basis for decision making, that should be of overriding concern. And until these questions are addressed, we will continue to sing, however off-key, from the same songsheet... ■

And Down Came Cosmos 954

By BARNABY DINGES

When a nuclear reactor used to power a Russian spy satellite plummeted into the uninhabited wilderness of northern Canada recently, Americans again were reminded of the dangers of nuclear power. The satellite, dubbed Cosmos 954, was designed to track the oceanic movements of American submarines. Although the vessel crashed into an unpopulated region some 1,000 miles north of the American border, space scientists have calculated that if the descending 954 had failed in its orbit just one pass earlier, it would have come down near New York City, in the height of the morning rush hour (do you believe that?).

Indeed the abundance of nuclear-powered machinery in the sky is a growing problem. But space-related nuclear complications are not new phenomena. In fact there have been six previous similar mishaps, three involving U.S. crafts. The most recent mishap occurred in 1970, when an accident-plagued Apollo 13 released one of its nuclear power packs upon re-entry. The severed power station spewed into the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Australia, but no casualties were reported.

The demise of the Cosmos 954 was described by U.S. National Security Advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski as "a space age difficulty. There was no danger." Conversely, Canadian National Defense Minister Barnett Danson said "an extremely dangerous" level of radiation was detected in the area. Since the danger zone was

patrolled by searchers wearing sophisticated anti-radiation gear, it's fair to assume that the crash caused at least some danger.

The nuclear reactor stored in the Cosmos 954 contained 110 pounds of highly-enriched Uranium 235, whose radioactivity lasts millions of years. The U.S. has similar nuclear equipment powering much of its space hardware. The reactors are designed to withstand both re-entry into the atmosphere and possible collision with the Earth's surface. But regardless of alleged safety precautions, the potential hazards of the Cosmos 954 reactor are overwhelming: its explosive potential is many times that of any nuclear bomb ever dropped on this planet. It's fortunate for our Canadian neighbors that the malfunctioning U.S.S.R. satellite lost so much of its contents during re-entry.

About the only good thing to say about the drop of the 954 is that it came as no surprise. The North American Air Defense Command (NORAD) had the satellite on radar since its launching in September, and its unplanned descent was detected as early as mid-December. A technological malfunction by the Soviets prevented the craft from releasing its nuclear package before re-entry. So the 954 was expected to drop in sometime, but as long as it avoided the United States, NORAD seemed content just to watch it fall (not that they could have done anything to stop it).

The much-publicized Cosmos 954 affair was a potential disaster that should make us all aware of the

possible horrors of nuclear power. But at the same time the calamity manages to cloud the issue by making us worry about a nuclear disaster that is much less likely than the nuclear threats to which we've grown so accustomed. While we become paranoid of falling nuclear batteries from above, we tend to forget about the persistent nuclear hazards we face here on Earth. We have dozens of nuclear power plants, which, although they don't fly and thus will never flatten your house, nonetheless create health and safety risks and cause still incalculable ecological damage. Also, in case you've forgotten, the U.S. has tens of thousands of nuclear bombs that can turn the planet into one big mushroom cloud. It seems absurd to be concerned about the wreckage of a single nuclear reactor, when we are so much more susceptible to contamination from nuclear waste or desolation by nuclear warfare.

Although President Carter has come out in favor of a ban on the use of nuclear reactors in space, we shouldn't let this make us ignore nuclear dilemmas here on Earth. After all, the Cosmos 954 will be forgotten in several years, but surely our involvement in nuclear power will have escalated by then. Better to work from the inside out, before there is no way out. The fiery plunge of the Cosmos 954 is but another reason to be concerned about our increasing dependence upon nuclear power.

And by the way, if you're hiking through the forests of the Canadian northwest this summer, don't forget to pack your anti-radiation gear. ■

Meltdown!

By NANCY GROSSMAN

Waterford, Ct.—Thirty-five towns in southern Connecticut are still undergoing emergency evacuation following a reactor core meltdown at the Millstone III nuclear facility here early this morning. State and local police and national guard have been on active alert since 3:32 a.m. when the Emergency Core Cooling System at the Millstone plant failed to compensate for a sudden loss of cooling water from the reactor core following a rupture in a major pipe of the core vessel. Large quantities of "highly radioactive gaseous material" have been escaping from the core vessel since early morning. Thirty-seven security guards and maintenance workers have died of radiation exposure thus far, with remaining workers in serious to critical condition in New York and Massachusetts hospitals. All residents within a 100-mile radius have been alerted.

Evacuation is proceeding more slowly than planned because of the large summer influx of tourists to the Connecticut shore. Traffic is stalled on all major highways leading away from

2 February 1976—Two top-level nuclear engineers resigned from General Electric, stating that nuclear power has become "a serious threat to the continued existence of life on this planet."

the Waterford area. Connecticut Governor Gionfriddo has placed the entire state under nuclear emergency alert. New York City mayor Joe Bean has declared that the mishap poses "no danger" to the city but residents are jamming roads, airports, and waterways in a frantic attempt to get further away from the area.

A spokesperson for Northeast Utilities, the power company responsible for the nuclear station, states that "this morning's incident was unfortunate, but there is no great cause for concern." Evacuation of the area is "merely an added precaution, probably unnecessary."

The above scenario has never been enacted at any existing nuclear power station (nuke) in the U.S. The possibility of extensive damage from a core meltdown is always present, however. A Brookhaven National Laboratory study, reissued in 1964, estimated that the damage from the most severe possible accident at a nuclear plant would leave 45,000 people dead and 100,000 injured and contaminate an area the size of Pennsylvania.

Is this risk necessary? Do we need the energy supplied by nuclear power, despite the risks? Are nukes economically sound? These questions need to be examined in light of the available facts about nuclear energy.

Economics

Many plants were planned at a time when annual energy consumption was continually growing, but in recent years (since the "energy crisis") energy demand and sales have actually declined in most areas. For example, the Seabrook nuclear power plant was planned when energy sales of the Public Service Company of New Hampshire were increasing 8 percent annually. In 1974 the PSC energy demand increased only 5 percent. In 1975 it decreased 1 percent. This energy demand pattern has been similar for other areas of the country. If this pattern continues, it is unlikely that there will be a ready market for additional energy.

Nuclear plants are not cheap. They are presently twice as costly to construct than conventional plants (coal, hydroelectric, etc.) of equal generating capacity. Capital costs are increasing dramatically. A plant begun in 1969 cost \$150 million to complete; a large plant now costs \$1.5 - \$2 billion to construct. The price of uranium fuel has also skyrocketed. A pound of uranium that cost \$8.00 in 1973 is now selling for

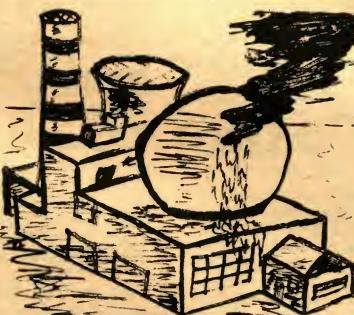
\$41.50. In order to partially justify the expense of building a reactor it needs to be in service as much as possible, but some plants are frequently shut down for maintenance and repair (fuel replacement and waste removal takes place four times per year) or accidents. The average reactor is in operation only 50-60 percent of its potential generating time. The cost to maintain an idle plant is \$10 - \$20 million per month. Repair or replacement of a faulty part is often outrageously expensive; merely determining the cause of a problem is referred to by the nuclear industry as the "million dollar look." Unreliability of a reactor increases the per-unit charge to the consumer of produced electricity.

Other costs must also be included in our calculations. Uranium enrichment, plant security and tighter safety standards, waste transport and security, and the cost of decommissioning a plant after its normal thirty-year lifetime (it must be completely sealed in concrete to the tune of \$50-\$100 million) are all expenses that are ultimately passed on to the consumer. Contrary to early industry speculations of abundant and cheap energy, utility companies constructing nukes have often sought million dollar rate hikes to cover construction costs. For every nuclear facility licensed so far, taxes have provided almost \$100 million in government research and development. The power companies benefit while the rest of us pay higher prices. The rate of return to the utility and its investors is higher with expensive construction projects because such investments increase the rate base, as rates are calculated from the amount of capital invested. It is economically advantageous to utilities to continue building nukes at the expense of the consumer-taxpayer.

Utilities often argue that a nuclear plant will create jobs for local people. In reality, approximately 2500 construction jobs are available for several years, but only 125-200 maintenance jobs are available at a completed plant. These jobs are filled mostly by highly trained specialists, often imported from outside the plant area.

Health Hazards

The nuclear fuel cycle begins with the mining of uranium. Only .7 percent of the uranium ore occurs as the fissionable isotope Uranium-235 to be suitable for reactor fuel, the Uranium-235 must be concentrated to a level of 3



percent in an enrichment plant. The enriched uranium is fabricated into fuel rods which are placed in the reactor core. Old rods are removed and sent to a reprocessing plant for salvage of useful materials and then to a temporary storage facility (there are currently no permanent storage sites for nuclear wastes in this country).

Public health and safety hazards are realizable at almost every stage of the cycle. Uranium miners are exposed to radioactive gases within the mines; 20 percent eventually get lung cancer. The fissioning of uranium within the reactor core produces a varied collection of stable and unstable atomic wastes, some of which are: Strontium-90, Cesium-137, Iodine-131, and Plutonium-239. All of these mentioned wastes are either highly carcinogenic (cancer-producing) or mutagenic (genetic

mutation-producing), or both. Strontium-90 has a chemical structure similar to calcium; it is easily taken into the bones where it produces bone cancer. Cesium-137 resembles potassium and is taken into the muscles. Iodine-131 can go to the thyroid. Plutonium-239 is the most potent known carcinogen. One million of a gram is estimated by cancer researchers adequate to give a person lung cancer. Extrapolating from this estimate one pound of plutonium, properly distributed, could potentially give everyone on earth lung cancer. An average-sized reactor will produce 200 pounds plutonium waste per year. Plutonium remains lethal for 250,000 years; therefore it must be kept contained for that amount of time.

The majority of radioactive wastes will remain contained within the reactor during its operation. However, release of some radioactive waste into the biosphere is routine and unavoidable. All light-water reactors (the type of reactor currently in operation in this country) employ either a one-through water cooling system which absorbs small amounts of waste and releases them to an ocean or estuary or cooling towers which release wastes to the atmosphere. In addition, radioactive substances continually escape as they pass through the metal and concrete of the reactor itself.

Accidents

Accidents in plant operation, transport, or storage are not uncommon and almost inevitably lead to a release of radioactive material.

—In 1961, three men were killed while removing spent fuel rods from the Idaho Falls reactor. Their heads had to be buried separately in lead-lined caskets due to their radioactivity.

—In 1969, a hose was discovered connecting the drinking-water system to a tank of radioactive waste at the Genoa plant in Wisconsin.

—In 1969, \$20 million of plutonium burned as the improperly-stored material spontaneously ignited at a plutonium components manufacturing facility near Denver (Rocky Flats). Since commencing operation, there have been 271 fires and 410 "contamination incidents." The cancer rate among workers there is 7 times the national average.

—In the first four months of 1976 fifty-six documented accidental leaks of radioactive material from nukes occurred.

—In July, 1976, 83,000 gallons of radioactive water spilled into the Connecticut River from a faulty valve at the Vermont Yankee plant.

—At a temporary storage facility in Hanford, Washington, 500,000 gallons of high-level wastes have been lost in eighteen storage tank leaks.

—The Emergency Core Cooling System, designed to prevent a meltdown and subsequent radiation release should the fission process "go out of control," has never been actually tested, but it has failed six out of six computer scale model trials.

—1977 - Two explosions at the Millstone I plant in Waterford, Ct., caused a total plant shutdown. The second explosion blew an 80 lb. door 130 feet off its hinges and "highly contaminated" a nearby worker.

The list goes on.

Storage tanks for radioactive materials last only about thirty years. At present most high- and low-level wastes are stored temporarily at plant sites. Millions of gallons of wastes have accumulated. Some method must be found to insure the security of these materials for the next quarter-million years.

Threat to Civil Liberties

Plutonium is one of the main ingredients in an atomic bomb. Three to four pounds of plutonium is enough to fashion a Hiroshima-sized bomb. An average plant produces fifty times that amount per year. The New York Times estimates that greater than two tons of weapons-grade plutonium and uranium are currently unaccounted for. Information on bomb construction is easily available from public documents. Last year a Princeton

senior designed a functional atomic bomb as a thesis project, using his college physics background and unclassified government information. The potential for terrorist actions, should the plutonium fall into the "wrong" hands, is substantial.

It is very likely that increasing erosion of civil liberties will accompany our increasing reliance on a "plutonium economy" and the subsequent possibility of sabotage. The government could find it necessary to employ even more extensive surveillance of dissidents because of the threat that any deviant group could pose to national security.

Citizens are left with an unsolvable dilemma. We demand greater safeguards for our wastes now and risk the semi-police state that would bring? Or do we wait for the repression that would follow a terrorist threat to bomb a city or poison its water supply?

Elements of this police state are with us now. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is developing a comprehensive program for dealing with emergency nuclear situations but the government will not reveal the details of the program. Ten plants that were recently criticized for being lax in security have been ordered by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to 1) do complete background checks on "selected employees," 2) arm all guards with semi-automatic rifles, and 3) increase the number of guards at each site.

Remaining Problems & Potential Solutions

Many other problems remain. World uranium reserves are dwindling, and most mines exist outside of the U.S. One-half of the world's deposits are found in South Africa. A uranium cartel could leave any nuclear-dependent economies in the lurch. There is also a question as to whether much energy is actually gained by nuclear fission, since vast amounts of energy go into building and decommissioning the plant and providing waste storage and enriched fuel.

"Once so promising in the first enthusiasm of the atomic era, nuclear power generation is becoming something of a monster, with dangers to people and the environment so awesome as to raise serious doubts that this is indeed the best energy source of the future."

Editorial, *The New York Times*, 31 Jan. 1973

Studies commissioned by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and its predecessor, the Atomic Energy Commission, seem to support these predictions. In 1974, security consultant David Rosenbaum submitted a report to the AEC which urged that "the first and one of the most important lines of defense against groups which might attempt to illegally acquire special nuclear materials ... is timely and in-depth intelligence ... (This may involve electronic and other means of surveillance but its most important aspect is infiltration of the groups themselves ...)" A study by the MITRE Corporation for the NRC recommended "a close working relationship with the intelligence community" for the nuclear industry. Another NRC - sponsored study done by Stanford University law professor John Barton in 1975 details the erosion of civil liberties and the legal changes that will possibly occur following a nuclear incident. The report predicts involuntary search and detention are likely and that torture of a suspected nuclear terrorist (following a nuclear incident) is a "very troubling" and not realistic possibility. The report also predicts that the amount of violence (or "range of discretion") used by a police and guard force would be unlimited.

There are alternatives. The American Institute of Architects estimates that by retrofitting existing buildings and building energy-efficient new ones we would save 4-6 billion barrels of oil per year by 1990, equivalent to far more energy than nuclear power could supply by then. The program would produce 2-3 million

continued on page 10

For The Faculty: What Community?

continued from cover

Indeed, collegiality — a stated requirement for promotion on the tenure track — seems to be what has dropped out of much of the life of this university. Professor of History and Letters Dick Vann echoed Ohmann's view, remarking that "the Junior (untenured) faculty have got to be socialized into professional performance or else they're done for."

What was our University like before these pressures became so acute? Talking to Bill Spurrier, Professor of Religion, I got a picture of a very different Wesleyan.

To give a picture of the development of the Wesleyan community, he looked back to 1942, when the Humanities program for freshmen was started. At that time, Wesleyan was a small institution of 800 male students. The program — surprisingly similar to the "university courses" now being adopted almost 40 years later — was required for all freshmen and was taught by 15 faculty members chosen from all three divisions. The program featured an interdisciplinary approach to the humanities, and a great deal of dialogue went on between the faculty during weekly Monday luncheons.

"How do you teach this?" was the kind of question that faculty members continually asked each other," said Spurrier. "The faculty educated each other — I don't know about the freshmen," he added.

Bill Spurrier viewed the late '40's and early '50's as the period of greatest faculty communication. The guiding force of those years was, of course, Wesleyan's President Vic Butterfield. Butterfield, according to Spurrier, had "a passion for interdisciplinary study," and under him, "between '48 and '55, there were some golden days. The faculty were really into each other's research. It was phenomenally exciting."

But then, what happened? "As knowledge explodes, we see divisions increasing," President Campbell told me in an interview. "There's more emphasis on research and scholarship today," he said. "This tends to keep people in intellectual groupings (which) can lead to a serious deficiency in the life of a liberal arts college."

Campbell seemed to understand Dick Ohmann's concern with the departmental structure of the University — but he expressed it along different lines. "We have a physical plant which makes for separation," he said. There is more of an impetus to stay where you are."

Increased specialization brings with it increased knowledge, but often a narrowed outlook. Now, the pendulum at Wesleyan has

Colin Campbell: "...more of an impetus to stay where you are."

swung from one extreme to the other. "We're getting too many specialized people," Bill Spurrier says. "The tenure track doesn't like amorphous appointments — for example, one-half in Spanish, and one-half in Government. In Vic (Butterfield's) day, the "humanities" professor was commonplace. But today, we ask, 'which Department is going to take them?'

Coming with increased specialization, most professors interviewed noted a widening split between Divisions I and II (Humanities and Social Sciences) and Division III (Natural Sciences). Bill Spurrier referred to this as "the old two-culture theory".

"We non-scientists have no way of judging the scholarship of these people. We have no way of evaluating a scientific article, whereas scientists can read an English professor's novel or book review." For a tenure decision, non-scientists have to rely on student evaluations (which are, according to Mr. Spurrier, 90 percent correct) and departmental recommendations.

Is tenure itself part of the problem? Bill Spurrier thinks so. "In the old days," he says, "the tenure track was 10 to 12 years. Now it's 6 to 7. That's bad because under the old system there was after 10 years no doubt about whether a faculty member would produce or not. The old votes were usually 55 to 2, or so. Now they're heartbreaking 49 to 51 jobs." As Spurrier explained it, 6 or 7 years is just not quite enough time for a new faculty member to really produce.

But in back of all this looms a larger consideration: the National economy.

"We can't blame the decline (in community life) on policy or bad people or on too many narrow minded people coming out of grad school," Spurrier said. "The major cause is the market situation. The pressure is clearly to publish or perish. We had at least 6 guys here who never wrote a word, just because they were good teachers. Today, that wouldn't be possible."

Duffield White, Associate Professor of

Russian, agrees that "the biggest changes at Wesleyan are related to the economy". White, (Wes class of '62) came to the University in 1968. At that time, economic conditions were very good, and the institution was "hiring like crazy". White sees the faculty as divided according to a generational scheme. "Most of my generation," he said, "were married and had children. They came to Wesleyan at a time of prosperity. They're the people who have just gotten through the tenure process."

Now, "graduate students can't afford to have kids," White said. They're more committed and dedicated to their career as a scholar. There's more competition. My generation didn't have to compete." Or, if they did, they were virtually assured of having some other place to go. Now, for many faculty, Wesleyan is their only safe choice.

For that reason, "there's more pressure at tenure time. There's pressure to devote one's time single-mindedly to scholarship. That's created a difference in life-style for the younger faculty. Less people marry and there are fewer children. There are more marriages where both people are professionals, living and working in different places. If there are two pros in the family, you don't have time to do all the things you were expected to do 10 years ago — meetings, committee work, being around and accessible to students all the time."

"Those faculty members who came here in the 40's, 50's and 60's have assimilated to Midwestern," White continued. Many of the younger faculty, however, are not creating secure social ties here. Dr. White himself has school age

"There's more pressure at tenure time. There's pressure to devote one's time to scholarship."

children, and he meets with the parents of children who attend nearby Wilson High School. This trend, he feels, is characteristic of his generation of faculty, and is tying them into the social framework of the community. Along with his wife, White helped found two community groups in the early seventies, the Play Center Co-op (a co-op for children) and the Good Harvest food Co-Op. His best friends are professors who have similar families and share similar concerns. As family ties grow more powerful, he finds, the interest in and willingness to work on University committees decreases.

Indeed, there seems to be a generalized lack of interest among faculty members to become involved in what are loosely termed "the issues". "People are too busy," White says. "The issues are not as significant or as interesting now as they used to be, it seems. There is a feeling of low-pressure withdrawal from political campus activity."

"Variations in mood create faculty participation. It becomes a matter of social psychology. If there is a feeling of general withdrawal, then that is the option most people choose."

That climate is very different from the one which existed here ten years ago. At that time, when the campus was "politicized," Wesleyan experienced a unity which was grounded in ideological struggle. White recalls the student-faculty strikes of 1970 and remembers working on a labor committee which was attempting to spread the anti-war movement to workers in Connecticut corporations. But this unity was crystallized out of a climate of divisiveness and alienation that soon swallowed up the energies of most activists. The University Faculty-Student senate was formed to increase the cohesion of the community, but unfortunately, it only served to deplete its strength.

The complex committee structure of the senate led to a pervasive feeling of "going through the motions," which seems to persist today, even after the dissolution of that body. "For democracy at Wesleyan," Bill Spurrier remarked, "the price is inefficiency: endless

"For democracy at Wesleyan, the price is inefficiency."

committee meetings. Some faculty hate them, and are sullen, but I'm willing to do my part. Besides, it's a good way to get to know faculty and students."

It seems that the political activity of the late 60's was not only a unifying force. It created a deep rift in the faculty which is only now closing. "We're only now beginning to get over breaches of friendship that occurred in the late 60's over political lines," says Dick Vann. He refers less to overt hostility than to a cooling off

of relationships, a sort of collegiate cold war. Political views are a definite contributing factor to the split between the Junior and Senior Faculty that many of the professors who were interviewed perceived.

But there are other factors which cause estrangements between the Junior and Senior faculty. Some of these stem from the worsening market situation, and then there are social considerations as well.

"There is a developing sense of social isolation between the Junior and Senior Faculty," says Dick Vann. "That's a consequence of economic conditions — the painful tenure decision." Several Senior faculty

"There is a developing sense of isolation between Junior and Senior Faculty..."

members also commented on the social pressure caused by having to judge a colleague's work under circumstances in which the stakes are so high.

Many of the old social roles in which faculty used to relate to each other are also changing. The clearest evidence of this is the demise of traditional faculty social organizations and events. These included the Faculty Club (the name given to the second floor of Downey House when it was reserved for faculty luncheons), the Apostle's Club (a scholarly association of male faculty) and the annual faculty Christmas party.

"As late as two years ago," Vann continued, "the Faculty Club was a place where one could meet and eat with colleagues. Now the expense is greater, and the necessity for reservations restricts the ability to just drop in." The changeover came about because Downey was losing money. "It's often the case now," Vann added with a touch of irony, "that the students can afford lunch there while we (the faculty) can't."

He feels that the Administration does not place enough importance on community interaction. He mentioned a university-sponsored free faculty lunch program at Middlebury, and commented that he thought the Wesleyan Administration did not even consider that it may

Kenan Professor of History and Letters Hayden White echoed Vann's call for a central meeting place.

"A place like the Faculty Club," he commented, "a place centrally located, where ideally people could meet across divisional lines, -- and where students could drop in -- is a crucial need for a school this size."

The end of the annual Christmas party came

"A place like the Faculty Club... is a crucial need for a school this size."

about because of social, and not economic reasons, according to Dick Vann. "The large Faculty party with dancing doesn't exist any more," he said. "Dance styles very much set off the generations. That was the main reason for the end of the Christmas party. There's a great deal more age segregation now than there was at parties."

Dick Ohmann views the end of the Apostle's Club and the faltering condition of the Monday Club (an association of Faculty wives) as a good thing. "(the clubs) were signs of institutional props to our community," he said. They also reflect the changing times. "Just the idea of identifying yourself as a faculty wife is sort of anathema today."

But now that these constraints have been lifted, what will bring the faculty together? It is a sad comment on our institution that one of the greatest evidences of Faculty unity can be found in their disaffection with the Administration. Recent voluntary meetings of the AAUP (American Association of University Professors), a teacher's union which represents faculty interests, have drawn as many as 50.

Much of this protest (it can easily be construed as such) is directly related to the worsening economy. However, the amount to which any educational institution can effectively cope with such a change is limited.

In the words of Bill Spurrier "Wesleyan has managed to maintain its unique qualities as a liberal arts smorgasbord," where true intellectual freedom still exists.

Many in the Wesleyan community seem to recognize a need for greater social and educational unity. If we cannot link these issues to our economic concerns and give them the same consideration, it will be great loss for Wesleyan.



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By LAU

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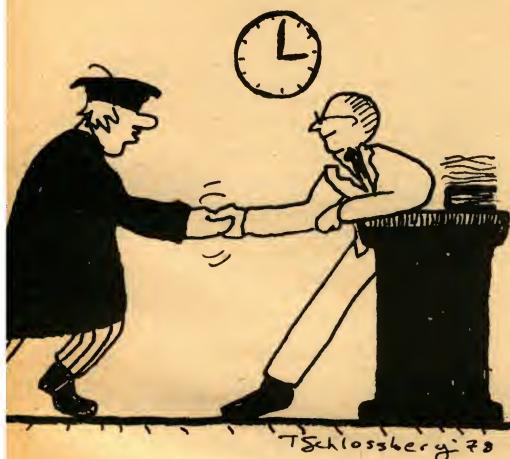
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and Untenured: Junior Faculty Speak Out

GOLDFARB

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in English, Betsey er in Anthropology, w Szegedy-Maszak in en Hart in Sociology. he just arrived this s to Wesleyan would pective. Before they ity interviewed were Princeton, Berkeley s working, not in ity.

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sed this point from a el the major problem mity of young junior come here have at Boston. Their images stay strong because

ople poke with said they arrived. However,

one professor who has been here four years still has not met many people. Tololyan said that he got to know "Virtually none at first. The first year everyone leaves you alone." During his second year here, he met people.

For some, department and location of office seemed to determine whom professors initially meet. Stephen Hart, Wesleyan's newest instructor, has met people in his department and in PAC, in the History, Government and Economics departments. Tololyan, however, did not meet people in his department primarily. For others, age was the main factor. Andy Markovits associates mostly with "other young faculty and junior faculty."

"All of my close friends are junior and young faculty."

Betsey Traube met people in her department immediately. The anthropology department is very small and has many activities for students and professors together. But the smallness of her department ultimately forced her to go outside. Diana Crader, at 28 the youngest interviewed, has met students as well as faculty as did Szegedy-Maszak who was 23 when he came to Wesleyan. David Schorr said at first he met faculty who have since retired. When he came here seven years ago, there were few young, single faculty. During his third year here, many were hired.

The opportunities for meeting people ranged from official functions, like the faculty Christmas party, through introductions from friends. Stephen Hart meets people over lunch at the faculty lounge and in meetings of the new chapter of the New American Movement, a socialist organization. Tololyan met some people at dinners given by married couples to which single people were invited.

Betsey Traube mentioned the Court Street community, an apartment complex for unmarried faculty, as a vehicle for meeting people. Szegedy-Maszak mentioned 101 High Street, a big house where many Wesleyan professors have apartments. Jill Manacorda met people at meetings, not at parties. Traube feels there's a shortage of parties here of the larger, dancing type. When asked who gives the parties on campus, she replied, "I give the only real parties here."

David Schorr lamented the demise of the faculty club a few years ago. Essentially the University Dining Room was then restricted to faculty only. Reservations were not required and one could bring a bag lunch if one didn't want to indulge in the buffet. Schorr felt it was a place where one could talk with colleagues without having to make an appointment. "Its demise was a source of strained faculty relations and of an inability to meet one another."

I asked whether the junior faculty feel a generational split between themselves and the senior faculty. One said, "All my close friends are junior and younger faculty." Another answered, "Most of my friends are within a ten-year age group — assistant professors and associate professors who just received tenure."

Szegedy-Maszak felt there was a generational split in some ways. "Senior faculty have families, different commitments. They are less mobile and have less disposable income." Steve White saw more of a geographical split in that younger faculty live in university housing around school, generally. He found more contact across age groups within the department than outside. He mentioned that junior faculty are treated better by senior faculty here than at Harvard. Finally, in response to "Do you feel a generational split between junior and senior faculty?" 31-year-old David Schorr said, "No, some members of the younger faculty seem of a different generation."

Leisure Time Activities

"What do you do in your leisure time?" I asked. "What leisure time?" "I don't have a lot of it." "Don't have any." "That's my own business." "I don't have any large blocks of leisure time. I take two or three hours to have dinner and drink with friends."

Steven White: "Free time is less free than it appears to be."

Stephen White elucidated further: "People's activities become circumscribed or privatized ... Part of it has to do with having a full time job more wearing than one would have originally anticipated. Academic work, whether teaching or research, is a curious kind of work in that it is sort of open-ended. You don't punch a time clock. Time spent talking to students, correcting a paper or preparing for tomorrow's class is not easily limitable. Free time is less free than it appears to be. People use their vacation or weekend time to do their own work."

Professors leisure time activities include playing and listening to music, drinking and eating with friends, ice skating and skiing, collecting photographs and watching cable T.V. Some professors go to Boston or New York on weekends. According to Tololyan, this is easiest as "you can just hop a bus." Most young junior faculty don't have cars. All of those interviewed are working on research. For most, this doesn't take them away from campus very often.

When asked if they liked Middletown, virtually all responded in the negative. Some elaborated, saying that there is nothing to do in Middletown and that it is "ugly," "dreary," or "not picturesque." Jill Manacorda likes it in a perverse kind of way." She's lived in Paris, Rome and New York and finds life in a small town "pleasant and relaxing." She thinks the area surrounding Middletown is pretty.

Personal Relationships

All of the faculty interviewed, except Hart who is married, are involved in relationships with individuals not at Wesleyan. None are dating on campus. Betsey Traube says no one dates because of the smallness of the school. Diana Crader feels people interact primarily in small group situations. Szegedy-Maszak believes "sequential monogamy" has superseded dating.

When I asked whether they were in favor of student-faculty dating, all replied that there was a conflict of interest and authority; the professor has power over the student. However, one said it would be different with graduate students, as they are more like junior colleagues.

One professor said, "I have nothing against it in principle. But others do; so I don't." Basically, the consensus was that while no one is opposed to professors seeing students — as long as they're not in their class — the faculty networks are too small and close to avoid talk.

I was curious as to whether any of these professors were thinking about marriage as part of their near future. Betsey Traube says she is not thinking about it, although she wants to get married eventually. She feels it becomes less feasible as one gets older and makes a progressive commitment to a career. "You become less mobile due to the job market. The question is, 'Who gives up the job?' The situation is complicated for women in a way that it wasn't ten years ago." She had misgivings about coming here for that reason. She feels she cut off the possibility of meeting a lot of people.

No one said that they anticipated prospects at Wesleyan. One spoke for all in saying, "I tend to doubt it. This is not a great place to meet people."

Socializing with Students

When asked if they go to student hang-outs, most faculty were unclear as to what they were. "What's a student hang-out?" "I'd like to. But I haven't seen any." "I don't know what they are besides downstair's Downey." Traube and Manacorda answered "No." Crader said she went to Downey for African drumming and

dance. Tololyan goes there for the pinball machines. White and Szegedy-Maszak went to student hang-outs more when they first came here.

Many faculty have been to student parties although not often. Five have been to dinner at students' houses. Some eat lunch regularly with students. Crader has lunch with students and faculty together. Manacorda has had lunch with students to converse in Italian. Betsey Traube doesn't eat lunch. It makes her sick.

Most find enough activities to do on campus; although several admit they don't take advantage of them. Manacorda says she likes the feeling that a lot is going on. Several expressed dissatisfaction with the movie program. Hart would like more entertainment flicks for "escapism."

Everybody agreed that there is nothing to do in Middletown. Markovits regrets the lack of good restaurants. Tololyan would like to see a place where one could drink and talk that is not dominated by a juke box. "If there is music, there should be a dance floor." Several go to New Haven, and virtually none frequent Hartford.

I found that almost everyone questioned is more or less satisfied with their lifestyle here. Many would like to be in a larger, more diverse environment or in a metropolitan area. Hart wished there were grad students here and more political activity. Szegedy-Maszak said the changes he would make would be personal and internal rather than institutional.

Publish or Perish

Most of the junior faculty feel the academic pressure to publish or perish. Hart said, "Right now I have to get my thesis done as soon as possible." Crader does not feel that pressure to finish hers. At Wesleyan, she is the only one in her particular area of Anthropology. She has no peers and feels isolated academically. Yet she has no competitors and doesn't feel immense pressure. David Schorr answered, "Exhibit or perish." But as selling his work is a major source of income, he feels the pressure is great from himself as well as from the university.

Szegedy-Maszak gave a long answer: "It's clear when you're hired that in order to get tenure you have to publish. Wesleyan is proud of its reputation for professors who teach well and who write in ways significant to the academic community. This (pressure) reflects the general academic scene in the U.S. There is a huge pool competing for steadily shrinking jobs. The objective criteria is the number and quality of publications." He feels there is a difference between scholars in the humanities and those in the natural sciences. "In science or math, a young person can do huge amounts of work right away. For humanists, it's more a process of accumulation. A lot published is immature... This results in a lot of shoddy scholarship."

In a choice between the tenure system and renewable five-year contracts, most preferred the present system. "Most people are vaguely dissatisfied with the tenure system but resigned." "The old tenure system in the present job market is absolutely brutal. But contracts have their disadvantages." One person explained that contracts can lead to unionization which can lead to seniority which makes it all too similar to tenure.

"The old tenure system in the present job market is absolutely brutal."

Another feels that tenure offers job security in a field in which one is constantly having to prove oneself. "Academics is a series of goals from getting a B.A. through the dissertation through publishing to getting tenure." One professor suggested that the criteria for getting tenure be made more flexible. "There should be room for someone who is not such a hot researcher but who is a brilliant teacher." Finally, one faculty member said that tenure should be abolished. "The evils outweigh the advantages in a society as free as ours. A system of renewable contracts is better."

As it turned out, none of my presuppositions about young, junior faculty at Wesleyan were entirely true. Most of them do not leave every weekend for a large city populated by young people. The Wesleyan junior faculty make their own fun in and around Wesleyan with a good degree of satisfaction. Dating on campus is out — partly because the institution is fading on the whole in favor of what Szegedy-Maszak referred to as "parody marriages", but mostly because people are afraid of talk within the small faculty community.

Everyone feels the pressure to have their work published. But that is not unique to Wesleyan. On the whole, those I spoke to feel well treated in their departments and by the administration. I almost got the feeling that the only drawback about Wesleyan is that it is not in a city. Yet those that mentioned that aspect realize that city living has its costs. According to David Schorr, "I couldn't think of any place I'd rather work."

Snapshots

I. "Grow up, you baby," Elise says. "Six was fourteen years ago, and you're still looking for your future in photographs."

She's right, of course, Elise pokes her finger through memory as if it were cellophane. She is shredding the web. Of the family, she has carved herself free, and holds the knife with untenuous success. She polishes her nails, and we never know what pastels will incise on which day.

I double. They hit me at any time, my attacks. They're not pleasant to watch, but Elise does not look away. At night, she props her eyeballs against the dresser, I know, and they recharge in use like pocket calculators.

(When I was young, my grandmother insisted that the family take me to a specialist. I was tired too much, she said. Sleep-o-mania, she said. Now, evening calls it a night before I do. The adaptors I swallow as naturally as my own water don't keep me from myself. This mind, Doctor—I see the lobes labeled, and the lining is as symmetrical as bars.)

I straighten, deferentially, as I've taught myself to do. A stranger watching us might have thought I was bowing to my sister.

"Look," Elise says. "I hate to see you like this. You never leave the damn snapshots alone. They're paper, that's all—paper and a lot of shadow. There's nothing real about them." She holds her hand out. I give her my pictures. Old paper, for sure. But she's wrong about one thing. They crack with life.

"Here, - and here, -and...here—" her pinky scratches a Morse code across the surfaces. "All the same thing. All the same person. You're wasting yourself on the negatives of someone who's dead, for Christ sake. Grow up, you baby. Six was fourteen years ago, and you're still looking for your future in photographs."

Considering I have lined the family nest with fuel from my own body, it makes sense—to me—that my unpacking would take longer than hers. Half of me over here, half of me over there ... I see the front picture in the shadow of Elise's Estee Lauder admonishment. Something pulls to violent attention inside me: a quick snap, and I am whole again.

"Give me those," I say, with the authority that makes the army recruiter leap. Crack! The flag is down, the paper crosses between us again, and I have myself safely. The cost is high. Such are prices.

"Listen," Elise says. "We're sisters. Hard to tell—and, sometimes, sad to say—but a fact." (Elise places great faith in fact.) "If you can't level with your own blood, something's wrong. It hurts me" — her hands grip each other, arthritic — "that you keep yourself hidden to everyone except some ... photographer you've never even met in your life. You don't know any men, you never date. You're a waste of your own breath."

"Even garbage can be useful."

"Well, then, if that's how you give up, you're a waste of mine!" Taking out the trash, she grinds a heel into the carpet (carefully), and is gone.

She thinks she has left me alone.

II. There is something to be said for the dialogue of virgins. Erin piles the geometry of her body into a chair and stretches her lip. You could dish out a multi-course meal on the expanse of her breasts. Today, the tablecloth is black.

"I read that the dark colors minimize the size of the bust," she says when I ask her. "The pastels tend to emphasize the size of the bust."

"Such troubles. I read that an operation can circumcize the size of the bust." *Erin honors my sense of humor. It's the platform of our friendship, she ignores my grotesqueness, and I ignore hers.*

"How are you?" she says.

"How are you?" Mirror, mirror.

"Oh, I'm feeling a little engorged right now. Once a month, you know — red, white and blue."

Now, I am twenty and haven't seen my own blood. My body refuses to give for me. (Did you know that, Doctor? Does that help at all?)

"I'm fine," I say. "Hanging in there."

"How's the —uh—" —her thoughts line up like soldiers, I can see her driving pins through them strategically—"the, uh-family?"

"My mother's fine. My sister's fine."

"Uh-huh." On the front line, a tinfoil bites the dust. "And, uh, the—uh, rest of the family?"

"My father." I feel the photographs in my pocket. "He's fine."

"Uh-huh. He is." Neither of us is sure whether we have heard a question or an affirmation. We watch each other like cats.

They walk like trainers, Doctor. Consultations, diagnosis-moonshine therapy. They're trying to slice my ghosts off of me. Coins and gods drop from my pockets where they shake me. Uncivilized surgeons, they still believe in the back room.

My friends, except for Erin, have grown long ago up and out. Progression can't afford to chat. Only the deformities stick. Erin sits next to me. She does not even take my temperature. Chastely, she picks lint from the barrels on her chest. If size is potential, her children will fatten like calves upon her.

She does not know what to say to me. Mirror, mirror.

She thinks I am alone.

III. My grandmother calls from Houston. She ejects herself through the telephone cord like a hit and run driver.

"Hello, hello—I'm calling just for you, darling."

She always calls for me. I'm always here.

"How nice I caught you in time. You're on your way somewhere?"

The quick fist.

"No? Well— maybe something will come up later, nu?"

"No" I should say. She's old enough to deal in truths.

"Maybe," I say. I press the snapshots against my thigh.

"How's your mother?"

"She's fine."

"Oh. And Elise?"

"Fine."

Costly silence. Already half-way through the line, only her rump and legs left wiggling in Houston, she pauses, ponderously. Her voice is muffled.

"The Rabbi came to lunch yesterday. He's quite a man. I wish you could meet him. He knows all about you."

"I know all about him." This man is nine feet tall. He can balance a coffee cup with perfect ease on either leg, even when the Sanka is hot enough to ignite his kneecap.

"We had a long talk and I asked him—" mumble mumble. Recent weight is making it harder for her to fit through the cord.

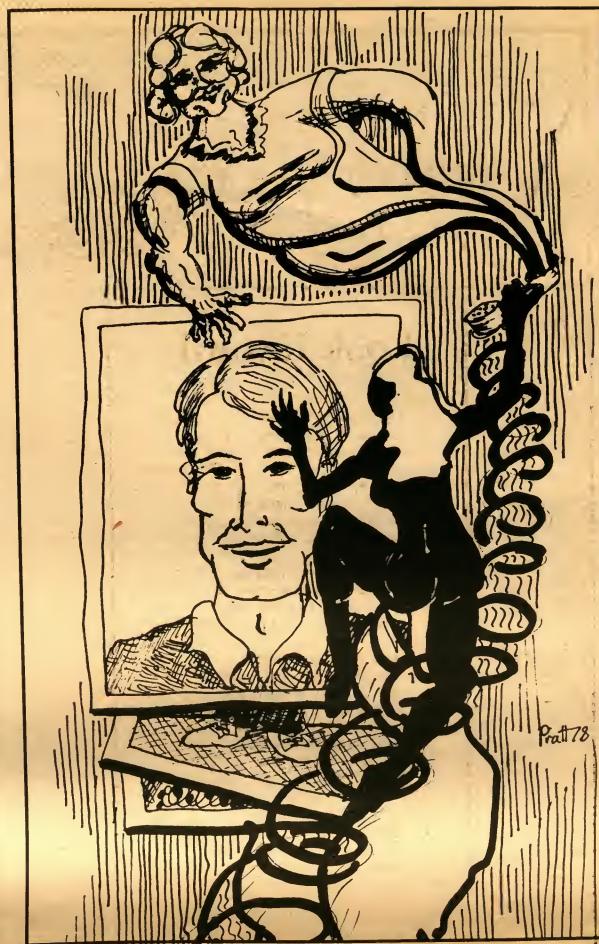
"You asked him what?"

"I asked him—" heave-ho—"look, darling, I asked him, cause it's time you should know from authority...I asked, how long before the living got to leave the dead alone. From him to me to you."

Somewhere an engorged phone box, probably over Chicago, gives a shiver. The box hisses and rattles, and smells of gas.

"So? How long?"

"Long enough! Look, he said to me, in my own kitchen, okay? that in the Jewish world the dead gets buried, and the living goes on. That's what he knows, and this is a



Rabbi; God talks to him like he don't get close to you and me.

"You're a beautiful girl, and you're my granddaughter. You're the blood of my son (may he rest in peace). I love you. I want to hear you happy. I want you to find people your own age who can make you live. It's time to grow up. I want you to throw this stuff away."

My grandmother crossed the German border in a bale of hay. For her, everything must be possible.

I take the pictures out of my pocket and count them.

—Now he smiles, now he weighs in the palm of his hand. Now it grays, and I grin from his raincoat while the sky loosens all over him. Now I kick fleshy spurs through his ribs and ride him across the lawn. Now we crease the bedspread together, and someone has written on the back, 'Which Is The Kid?'

My grandmother hoists herself through the last length of wire, and dusts off next to me.

"Nu?" she says. "That's all. You getting enough sleep?"

"I dream every night." It's almost true. I dream—of scissors and blackwidows—in the afternoons, when the house waits for the ladies to assemble.

"Listen—" she prods me. "You know I love you?" She nods enough for the both of us, maybe even the three of us.

She thinks I am alone.

IV. In Brooklyn, even tap water moves fast. My mother's sister carries a cane to get her in and out of subways. She doesn't like my mother. You understand, Doctor. But she doesn't like me for legitimate reasons. I linger too much.

"Listen," she whispers one day, when we are supposed to be friends. "I bet you're not even your father's kid. Your mother was the runaround of Queens. She's lain under more subway tracks than most drunks.

"It's a joke," she adds when she sees me start to topple. This time, I am in four pieces. Always an even integer.

"Listen, you want to rhapsodize about love? Lock yourself in a closet. In Brooklyn, we talk about life.

"There's a lady on my street. I never see her. In front of my door, she feeds every stray cat within a radius of five blocks. She's crazy. I hear her, three o'clock in the morning, twisting the lids off cat cans. She doesn't know about can openers. Every morning she rakes at least one lid across her hand by mistake. I guess. Then she stands under my window and waters the cement with her blood, and yells "GOD DAMN YOU, HAND! DAMN HAND, GOD DAMN YOU, DAMN YOU!" Some times she changes her mind and yells "GOD DAMN YOU, JESUS! JESUS GOD, DAMN YOU!" Who the hell does she think is listening? Everyone in the damn neighborhood, that's who. In front of my house.

"In the morning I open up and there's a highway of bloody cans all the way to the road. No cats, no lady. I never know how much is animal blood and how much is like mine. I never know, and I've never seen her to ask."

My mother's sister looks at me. "Your father is dead," she says. "Stop raking yourself with the rust."

I dream of scissors and blackwidows when it is light out, thrown across my bedspread like a stuffed animal. I multiply my parts and never get angry. But someday, Doctor, when they're lining my bedside for the final formalities, I will force them all into their own illegal memories. That's the privilege of dying. The ghosts on one side, the knights on the other—you get to make them shake hands.

v. There's a diner across the street from my window. Christmas Eve they changed the sign above the basket of holly rings for sale. Christmas morning I looked out the window: "Centerpieces, Cemetery Wreaths".

They think they have left me alone. They think I am manless. But late, late at night, when the house has roped us in our separate rooms, the pictures curl before me. I look down then, and rub the face I see with my finger, gently at first, and then harder and harder until finally

—until finally, his eyes roll and tear, and crack against the bedframe.

I'm waiting, Doctor.

—Elissa Ely

Political Perspectives

You're Hearing... But You're Not Listening

By NANCY WINKELMAN
and ELIZABETH SANDERS

A number of people have approached the two of us recently expressing concern that they feel uneasy around us. They find that when we are around they must censor their speech and actions to avoid our angry label of "sexist." They claim that the pressure and self-consciousness they feel inhibit their spontaneity, making them uncomfortable and defensive. We think that it is important for people to understand why we and others act the way we do — to be aware of the experience that motivates our anger.

First of all, people must understand that women's oppression is not limited to such issues as rape, wife beating and equal opportunity. We confront sexist attitudes in our everyday lives and our attempts to deal with these often intangible, often unapproachable attitudes create much frustration and anger. In this article we would like to limit ourselves to two very familiar experiences: sexist language and sexist humor.

Our language mirrors a society that is male-oriented. We use phrases like "an up and coming young executive,"

"Fill 'er up," "That took real balls," "motherfucker," ad nauseum, without even questioning the effect such terms have on women. The most obvious example is the total exclusion of women from everyday speech. Mankind, caveman, spokesman and the use of the universal "he" while supposedly inclusive of women actually reflect and perpetuate our male-dominated society. As much as people explain the "he" is just a convenient word which also refers to women, we can't help but feel alienated and excluded. For example, in lectures or meetings or books, when people use the pronoun "he" instead of "he or she" or "they", we often unconsciously tune out and stop concentrating because we find it difficult to relate to what the person is saying. When people talk about newsmen, congressmen, mailmen, etc., we picture men in these positions, no matter how much someone might tell us, "oh, of course we mean women, too. Don't be so sensitive!" And even if these words reflect the truth about present-day society — most congresspeople are men — sexist language only helps to preserve sexism in social spheres.



home one night and a man grabbed her from behind. She spun around in terror to come face to face with a male friend of hers. He laughed and said he was coming from a film and discussion on rape and he "just HAD to do it." Do we really lack a sense of humor, or are these humiliating jokes just not funny?

Once people recognize the problems of sexist language and sexist humor, another problem arises: what to do. In any such situation the two of us find ourselves weighing two equally unpleasant options. We could express our annoyance ("It upsets me when you say-do that.") and risk being laughed at, ignored, or, ultimately, typed, written off as "irrational feminists."

Our other choice is to dismiss the incident, avoiding a potentially unpleasant situation, but internalizing our frustration. Stifling such feelings can only lead to an overly emotional reaction in a later situation. We would ideally like to choose the first option, if only we could feel comfortable. But we are not comfortable and we are tired of being forced into no-win situations.

For those people who feel inhibited around us, we hope that you can understand why we are sometimes quick to criticize. We do not mean to jump on you or to single you out. Although we have difficulty at times, we are only trying to openly deal with being women in a sexist society. ■

You don't need a Weatherman...

By PAUL CHILL and
DANIEL WOLF

The blitzkreig roared across New England, each wave more devastating than the one before. The region defended itself ably against the first three invaders, but the fourth assault called for more strategic measures. In Boston the roads were restricted for military use. In besieged Connecticut, citizens anxiously waited for reserve troops from Texas to land at Bradley Airport.

Eventually the reinforcements arrived to relieve the fatigued locals. With renewed strength, the government forces started to make headway against the enemy. The battle was fierce in the cities and throughout the countryside, but from Philadelphia northward the tide began to turn. Soon the danger was passed: roads were cleared, and the humiliated enemy was being heaped in piles and carried away. Life resumed a semblance of its normal pace as businesses re-opened. People trudged off to work and cars jammed the streets. The clock for the rat-race was rewound.

But for some reason, many people, while cursing the snow, listened eagerly for news of the next onslaught. Somehow the joy of victory was tainted with remorse. The snow which had obstructed business-as-usual was cleared, and business was routine again, but

something else had faded with the snow. Something which the routine simply could not offer.

What is it that gives this "dread" wintry white stuff its unique appeal? Is the temporary hardship it brings really such a hardship?

The answer is not simple. First of all, snow — like any other extreme natural phenomenon — presents a problem that is obviously and tangibly communal. Although our normal problems are often social, we usually look at them from an individual and personal standpoint. When it snows however, we all need our roads plowed and our sidewalks sanded. Strangers who pass on the street have something to talk about, to complain about. Snow creates problems which affect all the members of a community, and it makes that community visible. Business-as-usual America, on the other hand, obscures this and creates instead an image of the individual against society.

Defeating the snow is a victory for the community. But as the snow vanishes, so vanishes the ingredient which forced people to view their problems collectively. Once again people feel their problems as individuals rather than as members of a community; once again, society becomes a collection of atomized organisms carrying on lonely, isolated struggles.

Beside engendering a sense of social togetherness, snowstorms demonstrate that we can still be helpless in the face of nature's most powerful flexes. In an age

when technology has come to dominate most facets of life, it is invigorating and sobering to witness one of nature's uncontrollable outbursts. In a sense snow reaffirms the existence of spontaneous and unknowable elements in a world of rationalized, bureaucratic efficiency. Snow breaks all the rules. People identify with this infraction because it is a symbolic release of their own pent-up desire to deviate from the contrived routine of everyday life.

and yet its arrival serves to draw together and define a community. While a snowstorm may "paralyze" a region, it also brings to life many feelings and desires that lie dormant in the normal routines of our lives. In this light, snow is truly one of nature's splendors.

+++

Even as we write this, a frigid blast of icy Arctic air barrels southeastward from the far reaches of northwest Canada. From the Gulf of Mexico moisture-laden air streams northward in front of a deepening low-pressure system. One hundred miles off the east coast, a stalled cold front extends from Nova Scotia past Florida. In Middletown, life plods along. Water cirrocumulus clouds thicken to the southwest. The first flake falls signalling the beginning of a fresh barrage. In time we will undoubtedly emerge victorious from this battle, too — only to be left unsatisfied, waiting for...

MELTDOWN!

Continued from page 5

new jobs. The Federal Energy Administration estimated that a solar generating plant would produce twenty-five times as many jobs as an

equivalent nuclear plant. The Atomic Energy Commission said that alternative power sources can be expected to produce ten billion megawatt hours of electricity in the year 2020-85 percent of our energy needs if energy demand continues at present levels.

Alternatives include solar, wind, cogeneration, geothermal, methane, hydroelectric, and tidal power. These sources have just barely begun to be tapped, but they hold great promise. All are clean, job-producing, relatively cheap, and comparatively simple.

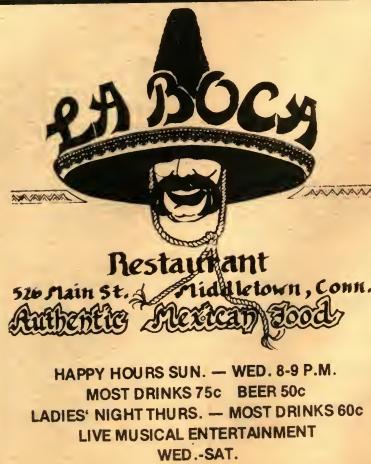
What kind of legacy do we wish to leave for future generations? Do we continue to produce quarter-million-year poisons? Or do we develop safe and clean alternative power sources? I believe that the choice we make will radically affect the quality of life of all succeeding generations.

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Tired of class overcrowding? Rising tuition? Well so is The Easter Island Society.

Easter Island is a pseudo-satirical organization devoted to bringing attention to some of the University's more obnoxious qualities. We are interested in forming a transfer program to the University of Easter Island in the interest of learning useful skills like how to cultivate yams and catch fish in one's teeth.

U. of E.I. has small class size (many classes have no students at all), less tuition (one tenth of your yam crop), and art classes in making large blank eyed statues.

With the quality of education decreasing at major universities, U. of E.I. will soon be able to boast equal status with them. For more information listen to the 5 PM WESU News this Friday, or write U. of E.I. box care of Prof. P. Spud, 415 Wesleyan Station, or attend the General Meetings, under the E.I. banner, Sunday noons at MoCon.

What Is To Be Done?

We feel the most effective way to achieve progressive social and political change is through direct positive action. The purpose of this newsletter is to supply the basic information that people need to understand and act upon these important issues. Too often, people cannot act because this information is simply not available to them. We hope to serve as collectors and communicators of this information so that people may effectively respond.

We will appear in each issue of the *Hermes* and every time will contain a number of summaries of important issues and will outline options for direct action. Such issues might include health, race and feminist concerns, boycotts, demonstrations, workshops, and other campus and national events. Also, a calendar of events and a topical resource list will be included in each issue.

The Progressive Action Newsletter maintains its office in the Alternative Resource Center on the second floor of the Housing Office. Any one wishing to contribute ideas or information about issues, organizations or upcoming events, or in working on the newsletter should contact the Progressive Action Newsletter care of: Wendy Melechen; Michael Schler; Eric Arnesen; Bradley Hess Box III Wesleyan Station or 347-4279.

Information in the newsletter may be updated in the Alternative Resource Center, and will be posted there for the public.

In this issue we intended to print a Resource List of campus organizations with political and social concerns. Because our space was cut and we did not want to omit any organizations from the list, we will print the entire thing in the next issue.

J.P. Stevens: \$ Over Workers

J.P. Stevens is the second largest company in the textile industry and for the past ten years it has resisted unionization attempts by its employees and has repeatedly violated labor laws and laws regulating industry. They make over \$1 billion in profit every year yet its workers are among the lowest paid in the United States. Blacks and women suffer the most, being confined to the worst jobs. (J.P. Stevens has twice been found guilty of racial discrimination.) Its working conditions are also among the worst in the country, cotton dust levels have been found to be twelve times higher than is permitted by the government, causing byssinosis, or "brown lung". In 1963 J.P. Stevens workers tried to form a union and since then J.P. Stevens has harassed, intimidated, and coerced its workers in an effort to oppose this unionization. It has a record of labor law violations longer than any other company in United States history, and this includes two recent indictments for unfair labor practices by the National Labor Relations Board. Also on the list are tax evasion, price fixing, industrial piracy and wiretapping. 20,000 J.P. Stevens workers have been left jobless by factory closings as the company flees union activity. Over 300 workers have been fired or otherwise discriminated against due to such union activity. A national boycott of J.P. Stevens products had been organized to help those workers.

Options for Action

1) You can boycott these products with these brand names:
Sheets and Pillowcases: Beau-Blend, Beauificate, Fine Arts, Peanuts (comic strip figures), Tastemaker, Utica, Utica & Mowhawk, Designer Labels: Yves St. Laurent, Angelo Donghia.



Stevens workers march for rights.

Hosiery: Big Mama, Finesse, Hip-Lets, Spirit..
Towels: Fine Arts, Tastemaker, Utica.
Blankets: Forstmann, Utica.
Carpets: Contender, Gulistan, Merryweather, Tastemaker.
Table Linen: Simtex.
2) Tell your friends about the boycott and inquire about Wesleyan's linen purchases. If they buy any of the above products, put pressure on them to buy from competing companies.
3) Write to J.P. Stevens and to your Congresspeople stating your concerns about J.P. Stevens' actions against the workers.

Events Calendar

Thursday March 2, 1978

Amnesty International Meeting 332 Fisk Hall 7:30 pm
Women's Center Gynecological Self-Help 8 pm 106 Gallery, more info X669
Aju Campos Meeting, Latin House

Friday March 3, 1978

Aju Campos Alumni Career Day, Malcolm X House, Marcus Garvey Lounge
Clam Liaison TF-AG Women's Center 170 College Street. Call Bradley Hess

Friday Saturday March 3-4, 1978

Day of Dance 92 Theater \$1.00 charge to support Wesleyan Dance.
Saturday: Wesleyan Asian Interest Group-workshop on Chinese Folk Dance taught as part of the Day of Dance 3-4 pm, Dance Studio.

Saturday March 4, 1978

NRG Fundraising Dinner, East College Dining Hall (call Prescott

Berg for reservations at 346-3774) \$2.50. Eric Arnesen will sing and info will be distributed.

Sunday March 5, 1978

Women's Center workshop on how to be street smart: demonstrations for street safety in response to recent sexual assaults on campus. 8 pm, check signs for place, or call X669.

Regular meetings (as far as we can tell):

Conn PIRG-Consumer Action Center organizational meetings
Thursday March 2
Gay Alliance: 1st, 3rd Thursdays, for info: Phil Melemed
NRG alternate Tuesdays 7:30 110 Fisk
SAAG: Wednesday afternoons 4:30 Hewitt Lounge. Foss 8-9
SOC: Every third Sunday, 9 pm Andrus Lounge
Women's Center: Sundays 170 College Street 7:30 pm
Workplace Committee: Variable, call for info.

These events are put up on a posterized calendar in the Alternative Resource Center for public availability. Please contact us for additions or updates to this calendar, or contributions to the calendar for after Spring Break.

Nestle vs Babies

Nestle is one of the biggest manufacturers of artificial baby bottle formulas. Through highly financed promotional campaigns, Nestle has been convincing families and doctors in the Third World's less developed countries that Nestle baby food formula (Lactogen), is better than their own nutritionally ideal breast milk. This is not so, especially in situations where 1) baby formula cannot be prepared with sterile water; 2) the directions for preparing the formula are not in the mother's language; 3) it cannot be refrigerated; and 4) bottles cannot be sterilized with heat. The infant death rate for bottle fed babies is now double that of breast fed babies. Through aggressive advertising campaigns, Nestle, in its quest for profit, created an artificial need in these countries and this kills babies. In some countries bottle and formula are now available only by prescription. This is not enough. Since Nestle is Swiss-based, the Infant Formula Action Coalition (INFACT) has begun a boycott of all Nestle products to make a statement and to perhaps exert financial pressure.

Options for Action

1) You can stop buying these products: All Nestle products, Crunch, Quik Semi-Sweet Morsels (Chocolate Chips), Nescafe, Nestea, Taster's Choice, DeCafe, All Libby's products, All Stouffer's products, Souptime instant soup mix, Jarlsberg Cheeses, Cross & Blackwell products, Maggi, Swiss Knight Cheeses, Deer Park Mountain Spring Water, Kavli Crispbread.

2) Write a letter to Nestle saying you are boycotting, explain why, and tell them you are buying a competitor's product, such as Hershey's.

Write to:

Nestle Co. Inc.
100 Bloomingdale Road
White Plains, NY 10605

3) Tell people you know, your friends, parents, store owners, food sellers, Wesleyan institutions, and anyone else, to boycott Nestle's.

For more information write to:
INFACT

The Third World International
1701 University Ave.
Minneapolis, Minn. 55414

Crunch Nestle's Quick!

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Editorials

A Tale of Two Papers

Question: Why are there two newspapers at Wesleyan? Answer: there aren't. The **Argus** is a newspaper and **Hermes** is a magazine in newspaper's clothing.

In a community as complex as Wesleyan there is room and need for a newspaper, to gather the facts quickly and report them accurately, and for a magazine, to serve as a forum for discussion of the issues and allow complex matters to be explored in greater detail. Of course this isn't to suggest that the **Argus** do away with opinion or that **Hermes** restrict itself to long feature articles. But, the natural distinctions between the publications are important; if each knows and values its role, much duplication of effort and needless competition can be avoided.

We feel that ideally the **Argus** would have a large staff organized around collecting and writing the news. When students first express an interest in journalism they would be steered toward the **Argus**, which would have a program set up to insure that they learn the fundamentals of the journalist's craft. High school newspapers cannot be assumed to have taught such things as interviewing, copy and headline writing, or even care and pride in the craft. With a large and well-trained staff the **Argus** could regain some of the respect it has lost in recent years and, in turn, attract more writers. We applaud the recent efforts to improve the visual quality of the newspaper; we hope that a like effort is being made toward other reforms. We want the **Argus** to prosper; Wesleyan needs the best newspaper it can get.

Hermes, in contrast, relies primarily on articles submitted "freelance" with only a small staff to edit and layout the material, and to give a measure of direction and unity to the magazine.

Note: In this issue of **Hermes**, we return to collective editorship in order to assure a more equal distribution of work and responsibility. A facilitator for each issue will coordinate our production efforts overall. The facilitator for next issue is W. Victor Tredwell. (346-3193)

Editorial Board: Alan Jacobs, Carolyn Said, Alan Saly, W. Victor Tredwell

Facilitator For This Issue: Alan Saly

Staff For This Issue:

Eric Arnesen, Rob Bertsche, Paul Chill, Barnaby Dinges

Lauren Goldfarb, Nancy Grossman, John McNich,

Elizabeth Sanders, Paul Wessel, Dan Wolf

Graphics: Janet Grillo

Todd Schlossberg

Photography: Danny Haar

Advertising: Joel Tillinghast

Hermes is a bi-weekly newspaper published by students at Wesleyan University. Offices are located at 190 High Street (2nd floor). Telephone number: 347-9411, ext. 712. All correspondence should be addressed to P.O. Box A, Wesleyan Station, Middletown, Ct. 06457.

Copy deadline Thursday before publication. The **Hermes** staff reserves the right to edit all copy where necessary, after consulting with the author (if circumstances permit). We recommend that contributors be available for such consultation on weekends prior to publication. All contributions must be signed; names will be withheld upon request.

The **Hermes** Literary Supplement appears monthly. **Hermes** is printed by the Chronicle Printing Company in North Haven, Connecticut. **Hermes** invites all students to get involved in producing the paper. Staff meetings Friday afternoons at 4:00 at the **Hermes** office.